## SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

At page 1, line 2, insert:

-- This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/395,831 filed July 15, 2002, which is incorporated by reference.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 17 with:

--It is an aspect of the present invention to provide a positive-working thermal lithographic printing plate precursor with improved shelf life. This object is realized by the material of claim 1, having the characterizing feature that of a low surface roughness of the grained and anodized aluminum support which unexpectedly provides an improved shelf life of the material. Specific embodiments of the invention are defined in the dependent claims will be apparent from the description of the invention provided herein.--

Replace the text at page 14 above line 1 with:

[CLAIMS] We claim: